

**INTERIM SUMMARY OF THE
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION/U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
QUARTERLY HIGH LEVEL WASTE MANAGEMENT MEETING
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
March 21, 2006**

Staff from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) held a Quarterly Management Meeting open to the public on March 21, 2006. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss current issues associated with the proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The meeting was held at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, with video and audio connections to the NRC Region IV office in Arlington, Texas; the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses in San Antonio, Texas; and the DOE office in Las Vegas, Nevada. Enclosure 1 is the meeting agenda; and Enclosure 2 is a list of the attendees who were present at the above locations.

During opening remarks, Mr. Martin Virgilio (NRC) welcomed DOE managers, members of the public, and all other stakeholders. Then Messrs. Jack Strosnider and Bill Reamer presented the NRC program update of the proposed regulations and rulemaking activities; anticipated NRC/DOE technical exchanges; design control and requirements flowdown; corrective action program; the potential falsification of information by U.S. Geological Survey employees; waste package and drip shield degradation models; and possible DOE Quality Assurance staffing level changes. Mr. Paul Golan (DOE) presented a DOE program update of the fiscal year 2007 DOE Yucca Mountain Project budget; near term schedule; technical report on the Infiltration Model; lead laboratory transition; critical decision process status; staffing plans; and DOE's prime contractor contract status.

Mr. John Arthur (DOE) gave a Yucca Mountain Project update on the corrective action program; status of DOE's response to NRC's Audit Observation Report regarding waste package and drip shield degradation models; design control and requirements flowdown; and Yucca Mountain site safety enhancements and upgrades.

Mr. Mark Williams (DOE) gave the licensing update on the Licensing Support Network; aircraft hazards analysis; design control; status of DOE's review of NRC Audit Observation Inquiries regarding DOE's audit of waste package and drip shield degradation models; level of design detail; Pena Blanca Appendix 7 Meeting; and future NRC/DOE interactions.

Mr. Paul Harrington (DOE) gave the design and engineering update on the Critical Decision-1 revision process; potential features of DOE's revised design approach; preclosure safety analysis impacts; and DOE's independent engineering study.

Mr. Michael Ulshafer (DOE) presented an overview of Quality Assurance staffing changes.

Ms. April Gil (DOE) discussed the status of open action items. Enclosure 3 contains slides of the presentations given by Messrs. Williams and Harrington and Ms. Gil. Other DOE presenters did not have presentation slides.

Messrs. Virgilio, Strosnider, and Golan provided closing remarks.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda
2. Attendees
3. Presentations